

The Famous and Renowned
HISTORY
 Of the Two Unfortunate, though Noble **LOVERS**,
Hero and Leander:

Giving an Account of all that happened from the beginning of their Loves, till both of them Ended their Lives in the Sea, for Love of each other.

Their Various Adventures, and the Renowned Atchievements of *Leander*, in his many Glorious Victories & Successes, till he was forbid Access to the Fair *Hero*, by her Cruel Father, upon his killing his Rival in a Combat. Also how (he being Imprisoned in a Tower) he Swam over the Sea to Visit her, & in a boistrous Storm was drowned, for the sorrow of which, she leaped into the waves & drowned herself.



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To the R E A D E R.

THe Famous Story of the Loves, and Unfortunate Deaths of Hero and Leander, has been so much the Subject of Poetry, and other Learned Authors, that I think there are but few People that have not heard little or more of it: Though indeed, the particulars of the beginning and end of their loves, has, to many, been left in the dark, as being written in Foreign Languages, who have celebrated their Memories as the most Constant Lovers that ever were. Wherefore, that our English Nation may not be left in Ignorance, I have though late, drawn it into a small compass, though very much to the purpose, containing much variety and delight, so that it may be accounted the perfection of History, dressed in a Method, that cannot but please, wherein the Passions of Lovers are expressed to the height, and the various dangers they meet withal, and struggle with, and although vicious Love be sometimes Unfortunate, it never misses of praise, and due commiseration, and moves a generous compassion in the hearts. Wherefore, not doubting but it will do so in those that shall, as well as those that have heard of it; I commend it to your perusal, as the choicest of Historys, and remain

Your very Humble Servant, to Command,

J. S.

The Famous and Renowned History Of the Two Unfortunate, though Noble Lovers Hero and Leander, &c.

CHAP. I.

How Leander, returning in Triumph from his Eastern Victories, fell in Love with the Beauteous Hero, and she in Love with him; and of the strange Vision of the Goddess Venus appearing to Hero, and what she represented, &c.



When Greece flourished in Riches and Renown, becoming, by Vertue, and Valorous Atchivements, the Glory of the whole World, having subdued to it self, not only the Persian Empire, but almost all India, & indeed the most part of Asia; Then it was that the Famed Leander, after many Warlike Exploits, and bringing into Subjection divers Countries, as General of the Grecian Forces, coming back with his Victorious Army, Adorned with Laurels and Triumphs, had his Praises sung every where. Whilst the Crowding Spectators flowed from all parts to behold him as he passed in his Triumphant Chariot. And amongst the rest of the Asian Beauties, the fairest of her Sex, and even the very Mirror of Beauty, Hero, Daughter to a Prince who had a stately Castle called Sestos, situate upon the banks of the Helespont, or narrow Sea, of about two miles over, that parts Europe from Asia, she that day was adorned in the Richest Attire that Gold or Silks, or Jewels could set out to the highest Illustration, glistering like the morning Star, or a Goddess in a Radiant Cloud, she was in a Chariot drawn by four white Horses in Silver Trapings, and shadding Plumes of Feathers of various colours, attended by a train of Servants, dressed in the Richest Garments that could be found, and with her, as her Companions, were divers Beautiful Virgins, so that she appeared like Diana, surrounded with her Nymphs, yet out shining them as far as the Sun does the glimering Stars. This Object soon made Leander fix his eyes upon it with Admiration, and though he had divoted himself to the God of War, and gave Nations Laws, yet now the God of Love put in to gain a Victory over him, who had been esteemed unconquerable, the Queen of Love seemed to guide his thoughts, and take up all his cogitations, he wished he might lay his Lawrels and Trophies at this fair Ladys feet, and found an inward fire kindled, that made him love this fair Stranger, before he knew what she was, or what Quality, yet could guess by all that appeared, she was no less than Noble, when his Triumphant Chariot had passed her, he could not but turn his Eyes back to behold her, and, like the Love-sick Son to his fair and beloved Lencothé, was loath to go out

cut of her fight, he thought once or twice to order his Attendants to enquire who she was, but then other thoughts countermanded them, when he considered that his Fame and Glory would be Eclipsed, if, just returning from the Wars of *Mars*, he should be suspected to Encline to the soft Tents of *Venus*, so that without any inquiry, coming to the Sea-shore, he Embarked his Victorious Army on the ships that lay ready to Transport him into *Greece*, and immediately, the sails being fill'd with a prosperous Gale, whilst *Neptune* and his Trytons danced before him, he reached the Joyful Shore, filled with People from all parts, who came to welcome him with Musick and Songs, loudly with shouts of Joy, proclaiming his welcome, and thronged after him to his Castle, or Pallace of *Abidos*, where his Father and Mother with open Arms received him, and all the States of *Greece* came to congratulate his Success, proclaiming aloud his Victories, and held ten days festival in their Capital Cays, in honour of his many brave Exploits and Achievements over so many several Nations.

Leander, during the General Rejoycing, was thoughtful in disposing his Army, and settling his Affairs, which being done, he thought to betake himself to repose after the tedious toils of War, but the beautiful *Hero*, whose Idea or Form, continually seemed to be in his sight, opposed it, he thought she was always in his sight, for sleeping or waking, his fancy and his dreams represented her unto him all Lovely and Charming, so that he could no longer stifle his Flame, but he signally shewed by the Alteration of his Countenance, that something inwardly disturbed him; his Parents and Friends wondered at so sudden a change, and not knowing the cause, urg'd him to discover it, but he being very prudent, put them off with fictions.

Whilst *Leander* was at this pass, the fair *Hero* no less surprized with the sight of him, represented to herself all that was great and worthy to be admired in mankind, in him, so that their flames and passions were Equal, though either was Ignorant of it, she was so taken up with the thoughts of him, that she bated much of her natural rest, & was pleased with nothing more than to hear the great actions he had done, the relation of which was musick to her Ears, and joy to her Heart, and often she would ask *Amphilia* her Nurse, who had brought her up, and in whom she alone confided, what she had heard of the famous *Grecian* Captain since he had passed the Sea. This Woman being of a ready and quick understanding, found by the young Ladys often changing colour, and sometimes letting a sigh escape when she spoke of *Leander*, that she had a more than ordinary concern for him, resolving to dive more deeply into her thoughts, she urged her many times to know, why she so earnestly enquired after the fame and welfare of this person above all others, but she answered her either with silence, or that she did no more in it, than every body did of so brave a man. But one night *Amphila* being to watch in the chamber of fair *Hero*, whose inward fire had, by burning too fierce, somewhat diminished her health, she heard her in her slumber cry out: *O! how Cruel is the*

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God of Love to an Innocent Virgin, to give her so deep a wound without hope of Cure. she scarce had said this, when she fancied in her dream, as she afterward declared, she beheld *Leander* standing by her in a most lovely and charming shape, and the Goddess *Venus* as it were presenting him to her with these words:



*Behold fair Maid what you desire,
His breast I've fill'd with equal fire,
Both shall enjoy what either Craves,
Till Love is quench'd in Neptunes Waves.*

Having thus said, *Leander* seem'd to embrace her, and she him, very tenderly with Ardent Affection, when a great Sea of Water seem'd to flow into the place on a sudden and parted them, at which she starting between sleep and wake, cry'd as in a fright: *O my Leander, my love, how or where have I lost you;* and so awoke with Rosie Blushes on her Cheeks, and tears in her eyes, and being told of this by *Amphilia*, she could no longer deny her love, whereupon she promised her her best Assistance, which she faithfully performed, as will hereafter appear.

How Leander passed the Sea to prosecute his Love with Hero, and by what means he delivered her and her Father from death, and slew a great number of their Enemies that had beset them in a Wood, and acted many other strange wonders.

Love having gained thus a double Conquest, and both the Lovers ignorant of each others passion, *Leander* grew impatient casting many ways in his mind, how he might come to the speech, or at least the sight of his fair *Hero*, whose image had made so deep an impression in his heart, & after some wavering of mind resolved to pass over into *Asia*, as a private Person to wait there a while for a favourable opportunity of seeing his beloved Mistress; he could see her Castle from the Shoar of *Europe*, to which he had often walked for that purpose, and would often cry out: *O happy Walls, who contain so Inestimable a Beauty, even the Glory of her Sex, and matchless perfections of Women kind, wishing himself the happiness, the senseless Marble unthinkingly contained by circling her in its circumference, and securing her when she took her soft slumbers and Repose, but long he debated not before he put his resolves in practice, and going to a private Harbor between two Rocks somewhat distant from Abidus, without the knowledge of his Relations, and finding a small Bark there, he agreed with the Master to Transport him to the further shore, which he did with a favourable gale, and Landed him by the side of a Forrest, some distance from Sestos, the Castle of his beloved Hero, where having dismissed the Master of the Bark with a Reward suitable to his Labour, he sat him down under a spreading shade, to consider the best methods to be taken without giving offence.*

Long he had not stayed there, ere, at a great distance, he heard the cry of Hounds, and the shout of Huntsmen, which by degrees drew nearer, yet his thoughts wholly taken up with love, was little affected with the noise, and therefore to avoid it he was turning another way to some little houses, that stood at the bottom of a Hill in a Valley, when after some silence, he heard grievous out-crys, as of People in distress, and immediately a man all bloody and wounded, came running out of the Forrest, whereupon mounting his horse he had brought with him, he came up to this miserable Person, and demanded who had so misused him, to whom with a faint voice, he reply'd, *Certain Pyrates, lying in Ambush in the Forrest, had set upon Prince Armelius and his Train, and had killed many of them, yet those, that remained, valiantly defended their Prince: Therefore, for God's sake, Sir, said he to Leander, if you are generous, hasten to his assistance ere it is too late.*

Leander, who had always a Noble Soul, and took great delight to relieve the distressed, need not be incited to such an Enterprize, set Spurs to his Horse, being directed to the place by the cry that continued, and found the Prince, most of whose men were slain, valiantly defending himself, his back being to a Tree against



gainst nine or ten of these, he easily perceived who the oppressors were, and who the oppressed, and flying in amongst them like a Tempest, beat all down before him, cutting off the heads of some, and the Arms of others as they were about to strike, making their Swords drop useless from their hands, this put new Courage into *Armelius*, and his wounded men, who yet survived their fellows, so that lastly laying about them, all but three of these Pyrates were slain, who, being likewise wounded, escaped among the trees. *Armelius* had scarce time to thank the Generous *Leander*, when hearing the cry of his Daughter, whom other of this rout were carrying away Prisoner, he besought him on his knees to bend his course thitherward, and help to rescue her. *Leander*, now all covered with the blood of his Enemies, turning his Horse to the path, followed the cry, and soon overtook them, but Oh! what Amazement and wonder seized him, when he saw, and knew this Lady, tho' in Tears, and disordered, and torn Hair and Garments, to be the beautiful *Hero*, he lifted up his hand to Heaven for directing to this Forrest, at a time when the fairest of creatures, and joy of his life was in such danger, and with a great cry, incited by love and revenge, fell upon them like a Thunder-bolt, breaking from a Cloud, drawing afresh his Sword, not dried from the former blood, whilst the trembling

bling Lady almost dyed away to see such fatal strokes, which at every turn brought death to one or other of them, so that despairing to carry off their precious prize when defended by one whom they supposed to be much more than man, those that could, fled, and those that could not, left their lives behind them.

By this time *Armelius* and his company were come up to lepd what assistance they could, and seeing fair *Hero* Rescued, they would have fallen at the feet of their Deliverer, but he Generously withheld them from doing, alledging that he had done nothing but what all Good and Just men, ought to hazard in such Cases to rescue the oppressed, and punish the oppressor, by this time the Alarm being taken, a great Crowd of People came flocking from the Neighbouring Parts, with such weapons as came first to their hands, and hearing what wonders this Stranger had done, and that it was to his Valour alone they owed the safety of their Prince, and his fair Daughter, they saluted him with shouts of Joy, but his thoughts were so taken up with his love, that he little regarded their applauses, for his mind was mortally perplexed for *Hero*, who, by the fright, and seeing so much blood shed, was fallen into a swoond, but reviving at length, she was put into a Chariot, that stood by the Forrest side, and conveyed to the Castle of *Sestus*. *Leander* being in his Encounter unknown to her, by reason his Face was all over covered with the blood of his Enemies: *Armelius*, and all with him, entreated him to go with them to the Castle, to which he seemingly consented, but it growing dark, he took an opportunity, in the Crowd to withdraw himself till he might better consider to manage his love affairs, and so went that night to a Neighbouring Village, where he refreshed himself, and presenting the Master of the house with some Jewels, desired him not to let any one know he was there, if enquiry was made, which he promised and performed.

CHAP. III.

How Leander Justed before the Princes, and won a Rich Diadem, which he presented to Hero with a Letter in it, manifesting his love, and overthrew a great number of men that lay in Ambush to take his life, &c.

Hero, being pretty well come to her self, made a strict enquiry after her Deliverer, and when she was told he had secretly withdrawn himself, her Eyes could not refrain from Tears, that she had not a convenient opportunity to thank him for her deliverance. y^e more she could not but wonder who this gallant stranger should be, & sent to divers places to enquire after him, sometimes she thought it could be none but the Famed *Leander*, but those thoughts again were dashed with the considerations he was passed over to *Europe*, and taken up there with the welcome of his Triumphs, during these Cogitations; and still fixing his Idea in her mind, great shews of joy were used in the Castle for the happy deliverance; and at the end of them a solemn Tilt and Turnament was ordered, wherein he that

did

did best, were to have a Golden Carronet set with Diamonds and other Precious jewels, which Glorious Sport of Martial Prowess was proclaimed by the Heralds, and it soon reached *Leanders* ear, and whereupon, not to be behind hand, lest his lodging and Rid to *Peteropolis*, a famous City near at hand, and there bought him a change of Armor, having in his Shield a flaming heart, on which the Sun darted some Rays upon, through Clouds, with this inscription, *She, for whom I suffer, is ignorant of my love.*

Leander, thus accoutred, took his opportunity to come to the list, just as the Trumpets were sounding to the Action, and found divers Champions in a readine's well mounted who, upon the Signal, run two and two together, and broke their Lances with divers Successes, many being laid in the dust; but, above all the Prince of *Persopolis*, who was Enamoured of the fair *Hero*, and to whom her Father designed to Wed her unhorsed all that came near him, and, though he was a man of an ill-temper, and little beloved by any glorying in his Atchivements, in a braving manner, came and demanded the Prize, as his due unles any other Knight would dare to attempt any thing further against him. *Leander*, who had all this while stood still that he might be Crowned with the greater Victory, ill endured by those he had foiled, and putting spurs to his horse, entered the List, and demanded the combat against him. They no sooner encountered, but the Prince was overthrown together with his Horse, as if he had been driven down, or Thunder.



struck with a mighty Tempest, which disgrace some of his Followers attempting to Retrieve, run the same Risk, so that in the end, none daring appear against him, the prize was declared his, which he had no sooner Received, but he layed it at the feet of his most lovely Hero, telling her, *That, above all the world, she alone was worthy of so fair a Diadem*: She modestly refused it, and said, *It was the prize of his Valour*; but he, urging his Forces, inspired by her Beauty, had made him accomplish what otherways he was not capable of doing, he at last urged so long, that she declared she would keep it for his sake. Many Admired at this, some with wonder, and others not without jealousy, all admiring what this might mean. Prince Armelius was well pleased with it, as imagining this Stranger could be no other than this Gallant Deliverer, and, the justs being ended, he caused a Lord near him to go and invite him into the Hall, where a sumptuous Entertainment was prepared: but Leander, who had his Face all this while covered, and not yet willing to disclose himself, returned the Prince his humble thanks in the most obliging expressions imaginable, and desired to be excused, saying, *He had taken his repast already, and obliged himself by promise, to return as soon as the Sports were over.*

His speech satisfied the Prince, in that he ever held that a man of Honour is ever tyed to his word, but the Prince of Persopolis, inwardly grieving that this Stranger should carry away the prize, and Glory of the day, and being also jealous by the Act on he beheld, that he might prove a Rival in his Love, he being passionately Enamoured of the fair Hero, and had sought many occasions to make his love known to her, which she minded not, or, rather not Regarded, he being the proudest and most ambitious of all men. It turned him to Mortal hatred to Leander, and watching his departure, he sent 12 of his Followers after him to set upon him, & when they had murdered him, to bury him privately that it might not be known.

These men knowing the ways of the Countrey, crossing the nearer ways, got before him, and planted themselves closely in a Wood he was to pass, out of which Ambush they all on a sudden burst upon him with their drawn Swords, and gave him a furious Assault; but he, who was never used to fear, was not at all daunted, recoiling his Horse a little, to get out of the inclosure, drew his trusty Sword, that had never fail'd him, and flourishing it in their Eyes, like a dreadful Comet that threatned death and destruction, he set upon them with such fury, that he felled them as if a Whirl-wind had thrown down a row of stately Cedars from some Mountains top, so that hewing off Arms and legs, and sometimes Heads, in spite of their attempting to fly, he sent Eleven of them to keep company with the Dead, while he that remained, though much wounded, fell on his Knees and begged his life which he generously gave him, upon his submission and Confession, at which, Leander could not but wonder how any Noble Man could be guilty of such baseness, and then commanding him to rise, *Go, wretched Man*, said he, *and tell thy Master that*

that Treachery never prospers, and I wear a Sword that may one day let him see the difference between true Manhood, and such Inglorious Acts as these.

The trembling man, glad his life was given him, having by, Leander's order, dragged his slain Companions into the wood, with much thankfulness took his leave and relating the fatal miscarriage, and what Leander had given him in charge, put the Prince of Persopolis into an extraordinary rage, so that he stormed & cursed the skies, & his own misfortunes, in which fret we will leave him, and return to Hero.

CHAP. IV.

How when the fair Hero read Leanders letter, she was transported with Joy, and sent Amarissa her Nurse, in search of him, with a letter she wrote to him. How he belied a cruel Beast, and saved the Woman that came in search of him, and his Amorous discourse of Hero, &c.

YOU have heard how Hero had received the present of Leander, which she curiously surveying, perceived in the Curious Needlework, that adorned the Cap of it, a little role of paper thrust in; which she eagerly, but not without blushing, took out, and read in these words:

Fairest of Creatures, Is it not without cause, that all who cast their Eyes on you, become Lovers and Admirers of your Noble Perfections. Pardon me then, if, among the rest, I have presumed to gaze on so bright an Object, which has not only dazzled my eyes, but penetrated my heart, and enflamed it with a desire to serve you, my life and fortunes, madam, I humbly lay at your feet, and, by my Obedience, if permitted by you, and to be ranked among the number of your Adorers, hope to gain some little spark of your condescending goodness to pity me, and give me at least your good Esteem, when you come to know who your Faithful and Constant Servant is, who now can no longer call himself his own, but must beg leave to subscribe himself your entirely devoted Leander.

The Princess reading this Letter, paused, and blushed, but, when coming lower, and having cast her eyes upon the Name of Leander, Oh! Heavens, how was she transported, her eyes sparkled with Joy, and she cryed out as in an extasy, *O my Powers above, how do you overload me with happiness, was it then the brave Leander that I beheld with such wonder, who made me this present, and was no doubt my deliverer, for who but so Noble a Prince could be capable of such Glorious Actions.*

As she was thus transported, Amarissa came in, and finding her in such a disorder, could not but be very inquisitive into the Cause, and seeing her hold a paper roll in her hand, to which the name of Leander was affixed, she soon understood the meaning, and joyed in the joy with her young mistress, who embracing her in her Armes, cryed out, *O Amarissa now the gracious constellations of light shower happiness on my Fortune, the brave Leander, on whom my heart is so entirely fixed, sends me for love, as by the Tenor of this letter appears.* Amarissa was overjoyed that the

troublesome part she was to undertake in going to *Leander* on her mistress's behalf, and finding a way out to make that love known, which she saw so visibly torment her, and would no doubt have brought her to her Grave, was now so generously prevented, yet being of a prompt wit, she began to doubt whether this might be the true *Leander*, or some that might use so gallant a name, on trust to introduce his affection, For had it been he, said she to *Hero*, who changed colour and looked pale at this suspicion, why did he so suddenly withdraw himself, he need not have feared acceptance in your Father's Court, his glory and renown would have made all proud of the honour of his Company: Yet, again, said she, recollecting her self, it may be he, since as I remember, when he passed by in his triumphant Chariot, he looked languishing when he fixed them on your face, and seemed to say, that love from your fair eyes, had sent his Darts to conquer him, who had subdued whole Nations.

Between these hopes and fears, *Hero* knew not what to say or think, however it was agreed between them, that *Amorissa*, should go in search of the Renowned *Hero*, and know if it was the true *Leander* or not, before any other Presents or Tenders of Love should be received from him, for to him, alone she had vowed her Virginity, with all her love and Chast Affections, and if she found it to be him, to deliver an answer to his letter, which she wrote in these words.

Sir, Though you are a Stranger, with whom I never had any Conversation, yet the Fame of *Leander's* Virtues and Renowned Deeds, which have taken up the Discourse of the world, cannot, you may well imagine, but have reached the ears of *Hero*, and created in her an esteem, worthy of so deserving a person; but how you could conceive so great a passion as you expressed in your letter, upon so slight a view, I cannot hastily believe, since the greatest, Queen on Earth, would be proud of *Leander's* Courtship, and set a Diadem on his head for love, I think if I mistake not, I owe my life, at least my liberty, or my Honour, which is dearer to me than both, to your Valour, and therefore in gratitude return you my thanks, and cannot but declare, that it is just when I am an Enemy to *Leander*, that I be so to my self: The rest I leave to the Bearer, in whom you may entirely repose any confidence, and so I take leave to subscribe my self,

Yours in Friendship and good Wishes. *Hero*.

Amorissa delayed not to go in this search, and having seen which way this Cavalier went, she mounted upon a white Steed, and riding to be as little observed as might be, happened to light on the way he went, and enquiring of divers Peasants, got some information that such a like Person, as she described, had entered the Wood before her, about three hours since: this gladdened *Amorissa*, who scowled after as nimble as the Wind, but coming between the broad spreading Trees that made a thick shade, and a kind of a Gloom at Noon day, she began to be fearful, she being alone, some thieves or Wild Beasts might assault her; however her fears were not so great, but she resolved to go on, and did so, till she came to the place the

The Fight had been, where seeing the grass & leaves crimson'd with blood, she started with a fright, and almost fell from her Horse, and being a little recovered, was desirous to turn him, but he head strongly leaped forward, carryed her away by force; for she had not Rid in this speed, but she heard a Monster terribly Roaring in the Wood, who having scented the blood of the slain, was making towards them, to satiate his Hungry Maw, but upon hearing the noise of her Horse's track, she had scarce passed the place where he was, but he came running to the Edge of the Wood, and putting out his dreadful head through the Bushes, which affrighted her, made her redouble her speed, yet after her he came full cry, which chappoy for her unusual sound piercing the Ears of *Leander*, as he sat under a spreading Beech, which he had tyed his Horse, to refresh himself after so much Toyle, and at a small Spring, which there bubbled up, to wash off the blood and dust from his face and Armour, which had besmear'd them in the Combate, whereat, clapping on his Helmet, he came unto the way, with his drawn Sword, and perceived a Woman flying, and crying for help as she fled before a monstrous Beast, whose jaws were already bloody, with the Prey he had already torn, which made him halt to interpose his never unsuccessful Sword, between her and death, which he scarce had time to do, ere the Cruel Monster was come so near, as to make a full leap at her, which made her, through fear, fall from her Horse in a swoond, so that *Leander* being alone, and rent the Horse in a miserable manner, before *Leander* could give him a full broak, which, however, at length he did, with such force, that it gave him a



deep wound in his neck, which made him the more eager, and with great fury came at *Leander*, rearing himself, upon his hinder paws, and stretching out his forward ones to catch him in his grasp, whereupon, with a home thrust followed close coming in between them he pierced his Breast, and so his heart, that he fell down dead, with a dismal cry: When he had done this, he came to *Amorissa* and reared her (who now began again to recover her senses) demanding what adventure had brought her such a dangerous way: At these words, rearing her eyes, and fixing them upon him, she immediately knew him to be the same that had won the Prize at *Sestus*, and the man she was in search after, whereupon she fell at his feet, and embracing his knees with tears of Joy in her eyes, said: *Sure Heaven is this day favourable to me, and to the fair Hero, in delivering me from death, and, as I hope, putting an end to a more tedious search.*

Leander, when he heard the name of *Hero*, started, and a little after recovering himself again, took *Amorissa* in his arms, and tenderly embracing her, said: *Heavens sake let me hear that Heavenly sound again, I think (continued he) you name Hero. I did so, my Lord, replied she, and hope you are Leander. I am so, said he, but what is the cause of your venturing alone this desolate way. In search of you said she. Of me, replied Leander, hastily, to what end I pray? You Read that said she, and you may be better informed: Whereupon she gave him the Letter, that Hero had written. He no sooner saw her name, but bending one knee to the Earth, he kissed the Paper a hundred times, before his words could get utterance, and then said he: Heavens Immortal Power! so great a Regard to Leander, as to inspire the Breast of the Fair, Beautiful, and Virtuous Hero; speak, speak, I say, for thou art my good Angel, I think thou bringest me these glad Tidings: And with that he thrust a Jewel of great value into her hand, for bringing him the happy news. To which *Amorissa* modestly replied, that if he was really that *Leander of Greece*, who passed some days since Triumphant over the *Hellaspans*, she had a Commission (if *Hero* had any power over him, as in his Letter he expressed she had, to let him know, that she had no light esteem of him, and that he might hope to be happy in her love.*

If that may be, said he, I am the happiest Man on Earth. It was my fear of offending her with my passion, that made me thus twice retire: First when I had rescued her in the Wood, and now, which cannot but grieve me, because it had almost proved fatal to you. But think you, continued he, I may be so over blessed to see my Hero alone, and presume to tell her of my love, without interruption, or without offending her.

Amorissa undertook this, and gave him Encouragement, this his Enterprize should be Crowned with Success, but that he carry on his Love as privately as might be, for that *Altamansor*, Prince of *Persepolis*, had declared himself a lover of the Princess *Hero*, and by reason of the Power he had in that Country, and the Ascendant over the Father of her Mistress, might much obstruct their Loves, if not make it prove

of

fatal consequence. To all, this *Leander* consented, and gave himself wholly up to be conducted by her management, yet concealed from her the design *Altamansor* had upon him by Treachery, though she was inquisitive, if he knew, how so much blood came spilt in the Road.

C H A P. V.

Hero and *Leander* meet over-joyed with Love, and knit the Bond that ended with their Lives, and of the mutual Agreement they made, and how *Leander* prepared to go to *Sestus*, to gain her Fathers consent.

THE Joyful *Leander* now resolved to go to *Sestus* with more willingness, he went to reap Laurels and Triumphs, took *Amorissa* (whole hearted monster had killed) up behind him, and crossing a nearer way, than he had done, he went out half a Mile from the Palace, where there was a Curious Garden, to which *Hero* used, in the cool of the Evening, to Resort, of this place he had the Keys, and here they Entered, and shewed him to put his Horse and Armour in a Vaulted stable under-ground, that they might not be discovered, if any body should come unexpected with the Princess, and carried him to a curious shady Arbour, so intricately winding and turning, and shut up with leaves and Trees, that those who remained in the Remotest part, could not be without difficulty discerned. Here he left him, with a promise that she would so order it, that the fair *Hero* should come thither, without knowing of his being there, least otherwise she might think it beyond the Rules of Modesty, to meet a Man, that was so great a Stranger to her, though she loved him never so entirely, thus she dissembled to *Leander*, but going to her Mistress, she told her all that had happened, who could not but blush, she had made such promise in her name, refusing for some time to go, as judging it might be interpreted as too much fondness, but *Amorissa* urging it as necessary in this Juncture, to prevent discovery, and laying aside her Rich Garments, put on a disguise, and so passing through the back Garden of the Castle of *Sestus*, through a little Wicket, that was shaded by a Tuft of Trees, they got into the Field, and so to the little Lodge, where *Leander* waited with Impatiency, the coming of his bright Angel, and employed all his thoughts in meditating in what manner he should Accost her; but, whilst they lasted, he eyed *Amorissa* coming, and in her Company one, who, by her Garb he knew not what to think of, as imagining it could not be his Adored Princess, but, upon a nearer approach,

her

her beauty, like an Angels brightness, shot through those seeming Clouds and almost confounded him with Amazement, that nothing before could daunt So near a Kin is Love to Impotency, that it disarms us of Courage, and enfeebles the strongest and most daring Resolution. She took a turn or two in the Walks and when she came near the Arbor, where he was, he ventured out, and, with a low submission, falling at her feet, and (whilst she stood almost confounded with Blushes and Amazement) thus expressed himself:

Pardon me, Divinest Creature, if I thus presume to prostrate my self before you, in hopes, that so much Goodness can pardon a Crime of a higher Nature, and especially this, seeing it is Authorized by Love, whose commands must be obeyed, and whose flames are irresistible. O turn not away those dazzling Suns of light that guide me to my happiness, but let those Orient Eyes shine upon me with beams of Comfort, that I may live by the brightness of their Rays, and by the Smiles of my Fair Hero. He would have proceeded, but Hero intreating him to rise, and Amorissa advising them to go into the Arbor, as well to keep them from the Heat, as from the prying eyes that might be upon them; the two Lovers obeyed, being both, without any farther Ceremonies, overjoyed at so happy a meeting, though Hero dissimbled it as well as she could, telling him, whilst he gently squeezed her fair Hand, which she permitted him to Kiss, that, she hoped he would not misconstrue her Actions, in being so forward in granting him Favours she had never yet done to any body, since, in gratitude, she could do no less, seeing he had been her Deliverer, but to grant him Love, which he earnestly requested, she must take a longer time to consider on it, before she absolutely fixed, or settled her Affections; though he must confess, his Merits required a greater Beauty, and a larger Fortune. Leander, hereupon, promised to obey her in all things, so that (she giving him very large hopes of winning those Affections, which, indeed, she had intirely fixed upon him before) it was agreed, that the next day he should make his publick appearance at the Castle of Sestus, but to be very cautious how he made Love to her in publick, or shewed the least sign of it, till she knew how her Father stood inclin'd to favour him, for, tho' she loved Leander entirely, yet she much relied upon her Obedience to her Parents, which proved very Tragical as will in the end appear.

C H A P. VI.

Leander's Fatal Dream, and the Treachery of the Prince of Persopolis, to oppose his love. Heros Father entertains him with Joy, yet denies his Consent, in favour of the Prince of Persopolis, and other Rare Adventures.

THE best and constant of lovers having had this Mutual Satisfaction of an Interview, and, in their hearts, inseparably linked by the Chains of Love. Hero and Amorissa retired, and Leander resolved to take up his Abode, till the Sun was near set, in that Lodge, till the next morning, when after many thoughts coming in his head, he fell asleep, and fancied he had fair Hero in his Arms, dancing on the Waves, and riding Triumphant in Neptune's Chariot, as if commanding the Seas, till Aeolus, the god of the Wind, conspired, with all his force, to raise a mighty and prodigious Storm, which over-set his Ship Triumphant; whereat, for fear of losing Hero, who seemed to reel (with him) on the watery Surges; he started, and awoke, much troubled at such an unusual Dream; but concluding it only the fancy of the night, and of his extraordinary Love, he hushed those Cares, and set his mind intent how to dispose himself the next day; he had forgotten to tell Hero how he had been set upon by *Altemus* Treachery, and knew he would not only oppose him in his love, but make her practises upon him, wherefore he found it was convenient to be wary.

Day approaching, he layed his Armour in a safe place, and took only his Cloak, and went to the Castle of Sestus, where, the Bridge being down, and the Gates open, he entered, and took him a secret Lodging in a little House, in the Remotest Place, where Amorissa often visited him, and divers letters passed between him and his fair Mistress, and sometime he was privately let into her Lodgings, where, in the end, their hearts became so firmly united, that they enjoyed in manner of innocent freedom, so that Hero, at length, resolved that, if she could gain her Fathers Consent, she would, without further delay, Marry Leander, and pass over into Greece with him, where, besides his Castle, he had large Lands and Territories, but, as she thought to do it, and just going to speak of the matter, he prevented it, by laying his Commands upon her to entertain *Altemus* for her love, with which she had been a long time persecuted, but ever slighted and despised, he layed before her the Advantage of such an Alliance, the power and riches of that Prince, and many other matters, but she answered him only with her tears, and entreatys, that she might not have a Man she could not affect; this made the Old-man in a great Rage, protesting not only to disown her, but disinherit her for ever, if she disobeyed him. This News she sent Leander in a letter, all blotting

with her tears, which made him for a time like a man beside himself, but resolving to hazard all for his Mistress, he concluded to appear like himself, and demand, or dispute her against *Altemanfor*, and so, in the most Rich Attire, which he sent for out of *Grace*, he appeared one of the most goodly Persons that ever had been seen in the Court, so that all admired who this Stranger should be, till *Heros* Father one day casting his Eyes upon him as he passed by, run to him with tears in his eyes, crying out: O my Deliverer, and my good Angel, have I found you again,



how is it that you left us, after you had saved our lives from a Death that was so near us! *Leander* made modest Excuses on this Account, saying: It was no more than in Honour he ought to have done. And if the Old man was transported, now he was the more abundantly; so when he knew it was Prince *Leander*, he carried him into his Palace, shewed him all his Rarities, and made great Feasting for several Days desiring him to demand of him whatever was in his power to oblige him; and he would do it for him.

Leander

Leander thought now was his time in this height of Carresses; said: Sir, for all the Favours you have done me, and for the Offers you have made me, I return you my most humble thanks; there is but one thing in the World I desire of you, and if I could but think you would grant me that, I would freely demand it.

Demand then (said he) boldly, and whatever it is, expect it. It is then, said *Leander*, your leave to serve the Princess *Hero*. At which he started and looked pale, protesting had he not already promised her to *Altemanfor*, there was no man under Heaven that he would more gladly have bestowed her on, than *Leander*, whose Fame and Worth had sufficiently spread over Asia and Europe; but having sworn to give her him before the high Altar, he could not go back with his word, or, if he should, he being Potent in those Parts, would take her by force, and lay his Inheritance waste. But *Leander* told him, that should never be whilst he wore a Sword. But no entreaties could prevail with him for his consent: and *Hero* having promised to dye rather than marry any but *Leander*, though she stood stiffly upon her Obedience: *Leander* knew not what to think, but coming to his fair Mistress, very sad and pen-



sive made her the sorrowful lamentation, who thereupon hung about his neck, overflowed with tears, and gave him fresh Assurance of her love and constancy, where

whereupon he told her the Treachery of *Altemanfor*, and that neither himself nor she were safe on that Shore, but that, if she would go with him into *Greece* secretly, he would Marry her Royally there, but she still insisted upon her Obedience, and told him, that time might mollifie her Fathers heart.

C H A P. VII.

How Prince Altemanfor suborned one to Poyson Leander, and how he was prevented, and how, coming to assassinate him, he slew him and his company, upon which he was forced to swim the Hellespont, whilst Hero was confined to a Tower, whither, guided by her light, he often visited her by night, and attempting to fetch her away, was drowned, whereupon she leaped into the Sea.

BY this time the News of *Leander's* coming to Court, being known to *Altemanfor*, the Person that had escaped, having told him it was the same that overthrew him at Turnament, and had destroyed his men in the Wood, he, was greatly enraged, but when he had secret notice he pretended to Love his Mistress, he imputed all the Rigorous usage of *Hero* towards him, arising from the love she had to this new-come Stranger, & therefore, seeing open force had failed, he resolved that secret Mischief should take place, and so with a great sum of Gold, hired one of *Leanders* Servants, (that he had newly hire'd) to poyson him with a glass of Wine, but as soon as he was putting it towards his lips it flew to pieces, whereat the Wretch seeing his Treachery discovered, fell on his knees, begging pardon, and disclosed the whole matter, upon which this and the former Treachery was published to the Disgrace and Anger of *Altemanfor*. *Hero's* Father was much displeased with this, and sent sharply to reprove him, which made him rage the more, and vow revenge, yet, knowing *Leander* to be a Prince of great Courage, and having sufficiently tryed his strength, he durst not challenge him to the Combate, but though if he could any ways destroy him, it would open his way to *Hero's* love, wherefore one night he broke into his Lodging with about twenty men, which creating some noise, *Leander*, who had not time to put on his Cloaths, got his Sword, and defended himself so well, that he killed the Prince and most of his Followers, which so Alarmed the Castle, that all were up in Arms, when *Leander* fearing to be oppress'd, or that revenge would be taken for this proud Prince, made his retreat good, with the Slaughter of his Enemies, and getting to a Window, that jutt'd into the Sea, leaped into the Waves, and directing his Course by the Stars, swam with full revenge to the Shoar of *Greece*, and safely arrived at *Abidas*, he thought for these many Treach-

cheries to have brought over a powerful Army, and have spoiled *Persepolis*, the secrecy of his love, and desire not more to offend *Hero's* Father, who was already outrageous for the Death of *Altemanfor*, he desisted that resolve, he sent a Servant to hear how things were resettled, who told him at his return, that his fair Mistress was confined, by her Father, to a little Tower that jutt'd into the from the Castle, and there mourned her Captivity, and his absence. *Leander* at this was altogether impatient, and resolv'd, at any terms, to free whereupon he got two of his trusty Servants to row him over in a little Boat



the night time, and being furnish'd with a ladder of rope, came safe under the window, & calling with a low voice *Amorison* who waited upon her Mistress soon heard and by his Direction, let down a line of thread, and drawing up the ladder, led it to the beam of the Window, mounted by it. *Hero* who was but just asleep, trembled to see him there, by reason her Father had promised, if *Leander* should be taken, to Deliver him up to *Altemanfor's* Brother, to be punish'd, who was cruel and as blood thirsty as the other had been, so that, after many kisses, and embraces, *Leander*, in a passionate manner, endeavour'd to persuade her to take her escape, with him, to *Abidos*; but she resist'd it, so that, in the morning, by stealth, as it were, he came often to visit her; she sitting up, in the

dark of Night, a Torch Light, in the Window, to giuid him to the Tower, he heard the killing News, that her Father had designed to Marry her, with three days, though she had opposed it with her tears and prayers, to *Babaz* Brother to *Altemenfor*, to prevent a War, and to Atone for his Brothers Death. This fatal Decree possessed *Leander* with Mortal Fears, so that she, seeing no hope but either to destroy herself, or be forced into the Arms of a man she hated, *Leander's* proffered Aid in case of VVar, would not be accepted by her Father, consented the next night he should come with a small Ship to go fetch her and *Altemenfor's* with all her Jewels and Treasure, into *Greece*. The over-joyed *Leander* went back to prepare a vessel, which he soon did, and caused it to be drawn in between two Rocks, lest his purpose might be discovered to the other shore, 'till it was Evening, when himself being weary, and lying down to slumber, he was suddenly awaked by a Melodious Song, sung by two Maremaids, who appeared dancing on the VVaves.

SONG.

*Awake, Leander, see the Skys
Do in Blackest Tempests rise :
in Neptune's Watery Kingdom, see,
Two Lovers shall Entombed be ;
Whose hard Mishap, the Sea Gods all,
With us, lament their Funeral :
The Cruel Ghosts Revenge do crave,
And Fate Decrees them to their Grave.*

*We pity Lovers that are crost,
And in their highest Hopes so lost ;
When nearest to their Joys they seem,
And find all but a Golden Dream.
Then do Crost Winds bear away
Their hopes ; Leander, prithee stay :
But the too forward Fates drive on,
By Love, the best of Lovers are undone.*

Leander hearing this, as it were, between sleep and wake, much admir'd it, and had a little trouble and heaviness in his mind, however, he resolv'd to keep his word at any rate, but, about Sun-set, a mighty Tempest arose, the Sea swelled with Terror, all seem'd a suddain midnight, when as, going towards the Vessel, he perceived it had broke its Cable, and had driven out to Sea, with those men that



were on Board it, he hailed them as loud as he could, but they stood away before the VVind, and could not get back, then he run about the shore to seek another Vessel but could find none, so that seeing the light in *Hero's* Tower, by which he knew she expected him, he resolv'd to run any hazard than break his word, and so stripping himself to his shirt, and hiding his Cloaths in the Rocks, he leapt into the swelling Main, in hopes to overtake the Vessel, or find it at the place appointed,

Leander

pointed, and so floated on the Waves, till he was half Sea over, when, as if the Elements had conspired his ruin, Rain, Thunder, Lightning and Wind bandyed him from wave to wave, calling to Heaven, and on fair *Heros* name, dashing among the Rocks on the other side, he lost his Noble Life, and *He* who had impatiently expected him all that night with greedy eyes, looked trembling in the morning, and there by the too Cruel Fate of the Ridged *Denies*, she beheld his body, floating on the waves, at this she cryed out in a lamentable sort, and calling upon his Name, leaped out at the window before her Nurse could prevent her, perished in the Waves, which after they were dead, drove them on Shore, folded Arm in Arm, which sad Trajedy being known, they were pity'd by all, as the great Examples of Love and Constancy, and Buried in one Grave. *Heros* Father soon after Dying for Grief, in consideration of the Cruelty he had used towards these **L O V E R S**.

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